

MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Parties

From: Office of Congressman Pete Stark (Contact: Brian Cook, 202-225-3202)

Date: Wednesday, January 5, 2011

RE: House Republicans vs. CBO on NoCare

House Republicans are ignoring jobs and the economy to refight the health reform debate. Yesterday, the New York Times reported:

*"The incoming House majority leader, Representative Eric Cantor, Republican of Virginia, accused the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office on Wednesday of misrepresenting the cost of the recently enacted health care law at the behest of Democrats in Congress."*

Why is Cantor lashing out and accusing CBO of falsifying their data? For the same reason that he refuses to wait for a CBO score before jamming a vote through. Cantor knows that CBO will show that their NoCare proposal busts the budget by adding over a trillion dollars to the deficit, and increases the number of uninsured by tens of millions.

Unfortunately, Cantor seems to be completely divorced from reality – telling reporters that he doesn't believe that health reform actually cuts the deficit. To make it clear for Cantor, here are the quotes from the non-partisan, independent CBO:

*"CBO and JCT estimate that enacting both pieces of legislation—H.R. 3590 and the reconciliation proposal—would produce a net reduction in federal deficits of \$143 billion over the 2010–2019 period as result of changes in direct spending and revenues." (page 5)*

*"Reflecting the changes made by the reconciliation proposal, the combined effect of enacting H.R. 3590 and the reconciliation proposal would also be to reduce federal budget deficits over the ensuing decade relative to those projected under current law—with a total effect during that decade in a broad range around one-half percent of GDP." (page 12)\**

\*NOTE: 0.5 percent of GDP from 2020 to 2029 is projected to be \$1.2 trillion

While many Republicans have argued with basic science in the climate change debate, Eric Cantor has become the first Republican to argue with basic arithmetic. As Cantor's office finds reality frustratingly outside its grasp, it's worth pointing out some other common misconceptions that they might need help with:

Toilets swirl a different direction in the Southern hemisphere - NOT TRUE: <http://bit.ly/toilet000>

Elvis is really alive - NOT TRUE: <http://bit.ly/elvis000>

Shania Twain is Mark Twain's great-granddaughter - NOT TRUE: <http://bit.ly/shania000>

French Fries originated in France - NOT TRUE: <http://bit.ly/frenchfries000>

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